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Attorney for Plaintiff, JAMES M. KINDER

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

JAMES M. KINDER,	)	Case No.: 07 CV 2226 DMS (AJB)
)	
Plaintiff,	)	FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR
	)	DAMAGES, INCLUDING PUNITIVE
vs.	)	DAMAGES, INTEREST AND
	)	ATTORNEY'S FEES, AND FOR
	)	INJUNCTIVE RELIEF
HARRAH'S ENTERTAINMENT, Inc.;)	
HARRAH'S OPERATING COMPANY, Inc.;	)	Violations of Telephone Consumer
HARRAH'S MARKETING SERVICES	)	Protection Act of 1991
CORPORATION; HARRAH'S LICENSE	)	Violations of California Civil Code § 1770
COMPANY, LLC; HARRAH'S LAUGHLIN,	)	(a) (22) (A)
Inc.; HBR REALTY COMPANY, Inc. and	)	Trespass to Chattel
DOES 1 through 100, inclusive,	)	Unfair Business Practices
)	
Defendants.)	

COMES NOW Plaintiff JAMES M. KINDER (hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff") who alleges as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. Although Plaintiff commenced this action in the San Diego Superior Court on October 2, 2007, Defendant HARRAH'S ENTERTAINMENT, Inc. removed to this court on November 21, 2007, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § § 1332 and 1441 (b). Plaintiff reserves the right to file a Motion for Remand at a later date. Each of the Defendants named herein is a resident of a state other than California and was responsible for disseminating unlawful prerecorded

1 telemarketing calls to Plaintiff, a resident of the State of California. The amount in controversy
2 in this action exceeds \$75,000. San Diego is the proper venue for this action in that the torts
3 complained of herein occurred in the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, State of
4 California and Plaintiff is a resident of the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, State of
5 California.

6 **PARTIES**

7 2. Plaintiff is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a resident of the County of San
8 Diego, State of California.

9
10 3. Defendants, and each of them, are, and at all times herein mentioned were,
11 business organizations doing business in the form of unlawful telemarketing in the County of
12 San Diego, State of California to San Diego residents, including Plaintiff.

13
14 4. One of the 7 unlawful prerecorded telemarketing calls made to Plaintiff's number
15 assigned to a paging service, which was made on December 9, 2003 at 10:19 a.m., stated that it
16 was made on behalf of "Harrah's Rincon Casino." That casino is located in Valley Center, San
17 Diego County, California. On information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that the Harrah's Rincon
18 Casino is owned by the Rincon band of Mission Indians and operated by one or more of several
19 Harrah's entities, including but not necessarily limited to Defendant HARRAH'S
20 ENTERTAINMENT, Inc. (a Delaware corporation), Defendant HARRAH'S OPERATING
21 COMPANY, Inc. (a Delaware corporation), Defendant HARRAH'S MARKETING SERVICES
22 CORPORATION (a Nevada corporation) and Defendant HARRAH'S LICENSE COMPANY,
23 LLC (a Nevada limited liability company).

24
25 5. Defendant HARRAH'S LAUGHLIN, Inc. (a Nevada corporation) owns
26 "Harrah's Laughlin Casino." Two (2) of the unlawful prerecorded telemarketing calls
27 complained of in this action were calls to Plaintiff's number assigned to a paging service
28 promoting the Harrah's Laughlin Casino in Laughlin, Nevada.

1 6. Defendant HARRAH'S OPERATING COMPANY, Inc. owns "Harrah's Las
2 Vegas Casino." Two (2) of the unlawful prerecorded telemarketing calls complained of in this
3 action were calls to Plaintiff's number assigned to a paging service promoting the Harrah's Las
4 Vegas Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.

5
6
7 7. Defendant HBR REALTY COMPANY, Inc. (a Nevada corporation) owns
8 "Harrah's Council Bluffs Casino." One (1) of the unlawful prerecorded telemarketing calls
9 complained of in this action was a call to Plaintiff's number assigned to a paging service
10 promoting the Harrah's Council Bluffs Casino in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

11
12
13 8. One (1) of the unlawful prerecorded telemarketing calls complained of in this
14 action was a call promoting the Harrah's Metropolis Casino in Metropolis, Illinois. Plaintiff
15 alleges on information and belief that Defendant HBR REALTY COMPANY, Inc. owns the
16 Harrah's Metropolis Casino.

17
18
19 9. On information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that Defendant HARRAH'S
20 LICENSE COMPANY, LLC is responsible in some manner for all or at least some of the
21 unlawful prerecorded telemarketing calls complained of in this action.

22
23
24 10. Plaintiff is unaware of the true names and capacities of defendants sued herein as
25 DOES 1 through 100, inclusive, and therefore sues these defendants by such fictitious names.
26 Plaintiff will amend this complaint to allege their true names and capacities when ascertained.
27 Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the fictitiously named
28

1 defendants is responsible in some manner for the occurrences herein alleged and that Plaintiff's
2 damages as herein alleged were proximately caused by their conduct.

3
4 11. At all times herein mentioned each defendant was the partner, agent and
5 employee of each co-defendant herein and was at all times acting within the scope of such
6 partnership, agency and employment and each defendant ratified the conduct of each co-
7 defendant herein.

8
9 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

10 [Violation of Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991]

11 12. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1 through 11 above and incorporates them herein by
12 reference.

13
14 13. Plaintiff is bringing this action pursuant to the provisions of the Telephone
15 Consumer Protection Act of 1991 (47 U.S.C. §227 and 47 C.F.R. §64.1200 – “TCPA”).

16
17 14. Subdivision (b) (1) (A) (iii) of Section 227 of Title 47 of the United States
18 Code makes it unlawful for any person to “Make any call (other than a call made for emergency
19 purposes or made with the prior express consent of the called party) using any automatic
20 telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice...to any telephone number assigned
21 to a paging service, specialized mobile radio service, or other radio common carrier service, or
22 any service for which the called party is charged for the call.”

23
24 15. Defendants have been calling Plaintiff's number assigned to a paging service,
25 using an automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice, without
26 Plaintiff's express permission, on at least 7 occasions during the statutory period of the last 4
27 years, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1658. These calls are only the calls known to Plaintiff at this time
28 and Plaintiff states on information and belief, without yet having the aid of full discovery, that it

1 is quite likely that Defendants have made many more violative calls to Plaintiff's number
2 assigned to a paging service. These calls were not made for any emergency purpose, nor were
3 these calls exempt under subdivision (c) of section 64.1200 of title 47 of the Code of Federal
4 Regulations.

5
6 16. Subdivision (b)(3) of section 227 of title 47 of the United States Code permits a
7 private right of action in state court for violations of 47 U.S.C. §227 (b) (1) (A) (iii). Plaintiff
8 may obtain relief in the form of injunctive relief, or Plaintiff may recover \$500.00 for each
9 violation, or both. If the court finds that defendants' violations were willful or knowing, it may,
10 in its discretion, award up to three times that amount.

11
12 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

13 [Violation(s) of California Civil Code § 1770 (a) (22) (A)]

14 17. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1 through 16 above and incorporates them herein by
15 reference.

16
17 18. California Civil Code § 1770 (a) (22) (A) requires that all recorded messages
18 disseminated within the state be introduced by a live, natural voice giving the name of the entity
19 calling, the name of the entity being represented, an address or phone number for that entity, and
20 asking permission to play the recording. Defendants' illegal prerecorded telemarketing calls to
21 Plaintiff failed to comply with this requirement.

22
23 19. As a proximate result of defendants' violations of Civil Code section 1770,
24 plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer damages in an amount not yet ascertained, to be
25 proven at trial.

26
27 20. Civil Code section 1780 (a) (2) provides for an injunction against future conduct
28 in violation of Civil Code section 1770.

1 21. Civil Code section 1780 (a) (4) provides for an award of punitive damages for
2 violations of Civil Code section 1770.

3
4 22. Civil Code section 1780 (d) provides for an award of attorneys fees for plaintiffs
5 harmed by California Civil Code §1770 (a) (22) (A) violations.

6
7 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**
8 [Trespass to Chattel]

9 23. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1 through 22 above and incorporates them herein by
10 reference.

11
12 24. The conduct by defendants complained of herein, namely calling Plaintiff's
13 number assigned to a paging service, using an artificial or prerecorded voice, without Plaintiff's
14 express permission, constitutes an electronic trespass to chattel.

15
16 25. At no time did Plaintiff consent to this trespass.

17
18 26. As a proximate result of these intrusions, Plaintiff suffered damage in an amount
19 according to proof.

20
21 27. In making the illegal calls described above, defendants were guilty of oppression
22 and malice, in that defendants made said calls with the intent to vex, injure, or annoy Plaintiff or
23 with a willful and conscious disregard of Plaintiff's rights. Plaintiff therefore seeks an award of
24 punitive damages.

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26 ///

27 ///

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION
[Engaging in Unfair Business Practices]

28. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1 through 27 above and incorporates them herein by reference.

29. Because Defendants' unlawful prerecorded telemarketing calls violated federal and California statutes, they are unlawful business practices within the meaning of section 17200 of the Business and Professions Code.

30. Section 17203 of the Business and Professions Code entitles Plaintiff to an injunction enjoining defendants from engaging in unfair or unlawful business practices.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as follows:

On the FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION:

1. For an award of \$500.00 for each violation of 47 U.S.C. §227;
2. For an award of \$1,500.00 for each such violation found to have been willful;

On the SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION:

3. For compensatory damages according to proof;
4. For preliminary and permanent injunctions, enjoining Defendants, and each of them, from engaging in activity in violation of California Civil Code §1770 (a) (22) (A);
5. For punitive damages;
6. For attorneys fees;

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1 On the THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION:

2 7. For compensatory damages according to proof;

3 8. For punitive damages;

4
5 On the FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION:

6 9. For preliminary and permanent injunctions, enjoining Defendants, and each of
7 them, from engaging in unfair or unlawful business practices pursuant to section
8 17203 of the Business and Professions Code;

9
10 On ALL CAUSES OF ACTION:

11 10. For attorney's fees pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5.

12 11. For costs of suit herein incurred; and

13 12. For such further relief as the Court deems proper.

14
15 DATED: January 30, 2008

16 /s/ Chad Austin
17 Chad Austin, Attorney for
18 Plaintiff, JAMES M. KINDER
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